

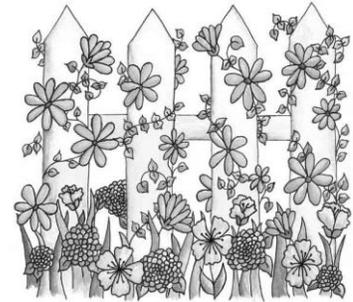
Home News of the Triangle

News To Help You Save Time And Money

Winter 2015

On The Other Side

There was an elderly man who loved his garden and spent many hours growing the most beautiful flowers on the entire street. One day while looking at new plants online, he came across a different sort of flowering shrub that he had never seen before. The flowers were exquisite. "I have to have it," he said to himself, and immediately ordered the plant.



When it arrived, he had a place prepared to put it at the base of a wood fence that separated him from his neighbor. He thought it would do nicely to block gaps in the fence.

Over the next weeks, it grew vigorously, with thick green leaves all over it, but there were no blooms. Day after day he continued to cultivate it, water it, feed it, but to no avail.

One day as he stood before the vine, he decided he would tear it out and plant something else there that would produce flowers. He went to the garden center to select a new plant.

While he was there, a young woman approached and said, "Aren't you Mr. Jones from Denning Street?"

"Do I know you?" he asked.

Win A Prize!

Check Out Quiz Question on Page 2

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"Not me, but my mother lives next door to you, and I have seen you around. I wanted to thank you. You have made her so happy with those wonderful flowers along the fence. She's too ill to work in her own garden, but you have made it beautiful for her."

When he went home that day, he got a box and stood on it so that he could see over the fence. Sure enough, the shrub he had planted had grown through the fence gaps, and on the other side it was rife with gorgeous flowers.

The moral of this story is that good work bears fruit, even if we can't always see it directly.

~ Amy Shair

Five Fast Home Face-Lifts

Paint may be the easiest way to improve the look of your house, but here are five additional ideas for a fast face-lift:

1. Trim shrubs around your home. Overgrown shrubs make a house look old and unloved.
2. Replace moldy caulking in the bathtub. If you don't want to do it yourself, hire a handyman – it's quick and inexpensive.
3. Replace draperies with 2 inch blinds. Blinds let in plenty of natural light and are easy to keep clean. Blinds come in real wood, but faux wood blinds are less expensive.
4. Clean out garage and attic. Getting rid of unwanted items and creating storage space for items worth keeping will make your house feel cleaner and more appealing.
5. Update light fixtures and cabinet knobs. Updating the finish on lighting fixtures, ceiling fans and knobs in the kitchen and baths is very easy and makes an immediate improvement at a low cost. If you don't want to do this yourself, again, a handyman will be happy to take care of this for you as well.

Best Prices Around
for Garage Door
Service & Repair



Ben or Brandon

919-348-6458

Which Lesson Learned?

Johnny was being quizzed by the teacher during an arithmetic lesson.

"If you had ten dollars," said the teacher, "and I asked you for a loan of eight dollars, how much would you have left?"

"Ten," Johnny answered firmly.

"Ten?" she said. "How do you still have ten if you've loaned me eight?"

Johnny replied, "My daddy says I shouldn't loan money or borrow it. So you can ask for ten, but I would say no. So I would still have ten."



Winter Quiz Question

Question: Do penguins have feathers or fur?

The first person to call in with the right answer will win a prize!

Call Amy at 919-469-6539 with your quiz answer.

NOTE: It usually takes 2 days for the winning answer – don't hesitate to try!

The Fall Quiz Winner was Bart Iannetta.



Cold Winter Riddles

- Q: How are bad grades like a shipwreck?
A: They're both below C level!
- Q: What do chefs call "Baked Alaska" in Alaska?
A: "Baked Here"
- Q: Where do seals go to see movies?
A: The dive-in!
- Q: What do you call fifty penguins in the Arctic?
A: Lost! (Penguins live in Antarctica.)
- Q: What do you call ten Arctic hares hopping backwards through the snow together?
A: A receding hare line.

**Need help with
projects around
the house?**



**Call my handyman
Dave Kenny
919-605-8444**

Timely Gardening Tips

Bare-rooted deciduous plants may be planted in January. These include fruit trees, nut trees, shade trees, and many shrubs and vines, including roses – in short, everything that loses its leaves in the fall.

Plant balled-and-burlapped evergreen trees and shrubs during January. The top of the ball should be at ground level.

If you are moving a plant this month, be sure to dig the soil ball large enough. The diameter of the ball should be 8 to 10 inches per inch of trunk diameter.



Crape myrtles should be pruned this month. Pruning last year's seed capsules during the dormant season will bring on more new growth and many more flowers the following summer.

Prune back pampas grass to within 10 inches of the ground now that the leaves are dormant. Late pruning could injure new emerging leaves. Ornamental grasses can be divided now.

Plant camellias this month in a partially shaded spot (such as the north side of a building, which is not exposed to strong winds). Camellias require cool, moist soil that is well drained and slightly acid. Plant them a little higher than they originally grew to allow for settling.

Morning sunlight or bright, indirect light will prolong the period of enjoyment of those potted holiday gift plants you may have received. Though the dryness of heated houses evaporates water quickly, do not overwater houseplants – keep the soil only slightly moist. Too much watering is probably the greatest cause of houseplant mortality.

Fall leaves should have been picked up by now.

Home News of the Triangle

Amy Shair

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2015 is Looking to be a Great Year!

- Interest rates are low and predictions are showing that the market is going to continue to improve in 2015.
- New construction and resale home sales are expected to be very strong.
- Having an experienced, dedicated, real estate agent is key!

**Looking to buy or sell—
call AMY for your SHAIR of the market!**



Amy Shair
919-469-6539

RE/MAX United

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